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AND

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ON THE LIFE-HISTORY OF *BRACHYTARSUS ALTERNATUS*.

By A. L. QUAINANCE, Lake City, Fla.

During a study of insects injurious to stored grain carried on the present year, this species of Anthribid was found to be quite abundant in certain localities in the State, feeding both in the larval and adult stages on stored corn-cow-peas and English peas.

As the early stages and food habits of this beetle have not previously been recorded, and as larvæ of the genus *Brachytarsus* have been supposed to be parasitic on scale insects, it may be of interest to note some observations that have been made on this insect.

DESCRIPTION.

Eggs.—Length .583 mm.; width .366 mm.; shape elliptical; color clear yellowish white; smooth, showing no markings; slightly adhesive.

Full-grown larva.—Length 5 mm.; width at third segment 2 mm.; width of head at base 1 mm.; width of mouth .2 mm. Body very thick and stout, subcylindrical, being flattened somewhat on ventral surface; tapering, slightly cephalad and caudad; caudal end rather bluntly rounded.

was discussed at some length, Messrs. Frank, Doll, Smith, Seib and others taking part.

This was followed by some discussions on the habits of dung beetles, particularly the so-called tumble bugs, in the course of which Mr. Seib read an article from a German publication detailing at length some observations as to the method in which the insects formed and disposed of the pellet they are so often seen trundling about.

The Entomological Section

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, PHILADELPHIA.

PROCEEDINGS OF MEETINGS.

The following papers were read and accepted by the Committee for publication in ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS:

NITELOPTERUS, A NEW LARRID GENUS.

By WILLIAM H. ASHMEAD.

Among a small but interesting collection of parasitic Hymenoptera sent me some time ago by Mrs. Annie T. Slosson, for names, was a minute digger-wasp, taken by her last Winter at Lake Worth, Florida, representing a new genus in the family Larridæ, although evidently closely allied to the European genus *Nilela* Latreille.

Our species in this family have only quite recently been monographed by Mr. Wm. J. Fox, and I therefore think it best that there should be no delay in publishing a diagnosis of this interesting new genus.

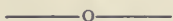
Nilopterius g. n. ♂.—Head transverse, with the eyes large and occupying the whole side of the head, extending to base of mandibles; maxillary palpi 5-jointed; labral palpi 3-jointed; mandibles long lanceolate; acute at tips, but with a deep emargination on lower side before the middle; ocelli distinct, triangularly arranged. Thorax with a pronotum a little longer, but narrower than the mesonotum, with a transverse constriction or furrow above at about two-thirds its length; mesonotum broader than long, obtrapezoidal, without parapsidal furrows, but with a shallow, poorly-defined, median furrow, which is more especially noticeable anteriorly; scutellum with a transverse grooved line at base; metanotum as long as the mesonotum and scutellum united, slightly narrowed towards apex, the hind angles rounded, the short oblique posterior face transversely striated, with a slight sulcus; spiracles linear; tibial spurs 1, 1, 2, the tarsi longer than their femora. Front wings with one submarginal and two discoidal cells, the submedian cell considerably shorter than the me-

dian, the areolet or second submarginal cell obliterated, evidently by the union of the two transverse cubital nervures as the only one now present is somewhat stout; the cubitus is indicated by a stump of a vein which is shorter than the transverse cubitus; marginal cell shorter than the first submarginal cell, slightly rounded at apex, but not appendiculated, about two and one-half times as long as wide. Abdomen oblong-oval, narrower than the thorax, with seven distinct segments; segments 1-3 occupying most of the surface, the first the longest, the second and third subequal; segments 4-7 united, not longer than the third.

In venation and general appearance this new genus is not unlike *Nitela* Latr., and will naturally, on account of the venation of front wings, come next to it in any natural arrangement of the genera of the Larridæ; but is readily separated by the strongly emarginated mandibles, the slight difference in size and shape of the marginal cell and by the cubitus in the hind wing originating somewhat farther away from the transverse median nervure.

Nitelopterus slossonæ sp. n. ♂.—Length 3.5 mm. Black, more or less clothed with a silvery pile, the head in front and thorax above bronzed; clypeus and face below insertion of antennæ clothed with a dense, silvery pubescence; scape beneath, mandibles, tibiæ and tarsi, ferruginous; anterior and middle tibiæ on upper surface more or less dusky; apex of tarsal joints armed with black spines; flagellum filiform, joints 1-7 subequal 4 and 5 distinctly longer than 1 and 2, or about four times as long as thick. Abdomen with segments 1-4 banded with silvery pile on apical margins, less distinct on the following segments; the segments 1 and 2 have also a more or less distinct testaceous spot at apical middle.

Hab.—Lake Worth, Florida. (Mrs. Annie T. Slosson).



SOME SPECIES OF *PERDITA* FROM NEBRASKA.

By T. D. A. COCKERELL, N. M. Agr. Exp. Station.

So far as I am aware, no species of *Perdita* has ever been recorded from Nebraska, so the following account of some just received from Prof. L. Bruner will possess interest.

(1). *Perdita albipennis* Cresson, 1868.—Sand Hills, Neb., July. Both sexes.

(2). *Perdita bruneri* n. sp. West Point, Neb., August, 1887. One of each sex, ♂.—About 6 mm. long. Head and thorax dark olive-green, dullish, with bright lemon-yellow markings. Face bare, vertex, cheeks and thoracic dorsum with the usual sparse pubescence, becoming dense and conspicuously white on lower part of cheeks and lower part of pleura. Head ordinary, cheeks unarmed. Face below level of antennæ all yellow, except clypeal dots, and a black streak at junction of dog-ear mark with